

Global Solvers Accelerator 2024

Application Guide

WHY THIS APPLICATION GUIDE:

The online application is the primary documentation taken into consideration when selecting candidates for the [Global Solvers Accelerator](#). Thus, we advise everyone who is seriously interested in the program to fill the application form diligently.

The form is comprehensive and takes some time to complete. To allow interested candidates to develop their application offline, this Application Guide is a replica of the online application form.

We hope you find this to be a useful resource to prepare your application diligently and ahead of time before submitting the final application via the online form. Starting with the next page, you will

How to prepare?

- 1. Use a word document (or any other medium of your choice) to draft your answers to the application questions in your own time.*
- 2. Ensure that your answer adequately addresses the question and that the information you provide is coherent and can be understood by someone who may not be familiar with your context or project.*
- 3. Share that draft of your application with people (e.g., colleagues from your social impact project) who could give you valuable feedback and tips to improve your application.*
- 4. Organize and compile all the necessary documentation you will need to upload along with your answers.*
- 5. Once you have all the necessary documentation at hand and your application is in a satisfactory state, upload (copy/paste) the final answers to the online application form by the deadline >> <https://meltonfoundation.typeform.com/GlobalSolvers24>*

The application deadline is 15 December 2023 (23:59 US-EST / New York)

APPLICATION FORM

Section 1: Introduction

WELCOME TO THE GLOBAL SOLVERS ACCELERATOR!

Congratulations, you're about to apply to a program that connects, empowers, and transforms passionate change agents and practitioners of sustainable development worldwide. Completing this application form **diligently** and **by the deadline** is an essential step towards embarking on an eight-month collaborative learning journey that will transform you, the social impact project you bring to this program, and your community - if you allow for it.

If selected into the program, you will be one of 20 community practitioners from around the world, who will work together on refining the impact of the community projects everyone is spearheading. Throughout a **guided, experiential learning journey** with intentional peer exchange, tailored subject matter advisory, and leading-edge thematic impulses, you will build the competencies, capacity, and network(s) to unleash the fullest transformative potential of your social impact work. The program unfolds **online** from March - December 2024 and includes an **in-person** Global Solvers Co-Lab in July 2024 (details to be confirmed) - fully funded for actively engaged participants.

Collectively, we will strive towards you **becoming the catalyst for transformative change**, capable of honing their global citizenship skills to connect and collaborate across boundaries of sector, place, and identity.

A signature program of the Melton Foundation, the Global Solvers Accelerator is deeply intertwined with our unique community of global citizenship practice. Upon successful completion of the 8-month program, you will be eligible to join the **life-long [Melton Foundation Fellowship!](#)**

In other words, this application might be **your ticket to a transformative and impactful ride** that goes way beyond the duration of the program.

Before we get fully started, however, let's do a quick entry-level check!

*In this application, every click is intentional. If you're unsure or need to refresh your memory, **follow [this link](#)** to review the must-know details online.*

- I confirm that I have read through the program description and understand and meet this program's eligibility criteria.

USEFUL TIPS AS YOU FILL IN THE APPLICATION

In this application, you will be asked questions about yourself, your passions, the social impact project you want to accelerate as part of this program, and how you see yourself contributing to a collaborative learning and working environment.

Some of the questions invite you to showcase the great work you do. Other questions, however, invite you to take a more reflective, sometimes even critical, stance. Both can be challenging, and yet we invite you to approach the questions with full dedication and care. The *perfect application* is the one that provides us with deep(er), reflective insights about you and the work you do. Try to answer **EACH** question to the best of your knowledge with quality information.

Make sure to submit your finalized responses using this form by the **application deadline, 15 December 2023**, at 23:59 US EST (New York).

We encourage everyone, who is seriously interested in joining the program, to develop their application offline and ahead of time. Ideally, you have someone - e.g., colleagues from their social impact project - review and help refine their answers **before submitting** the final application via this online application form.

*We have put together an Application Guide to give interested candidates the opportunity to prepare their applications offline. **Click here** to download this application form as a pdf file to develop your responses in your own time.*

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE WE GET STARTED:

- All questions must be answered in *English*.
- The *word limit* indicated with each question must not be exceeded.
- We only accept applications that are *complete* or *submitted by the deadline*.
- With our [Privacy Policy](#) we ensure that your data is safe with us.
- For questions or clarifications, visit our [website](#) or [contact us](#) directly.

Section 2: Your Personal Information

"Stepping onto a brand-new path is difficult, but not more difficult than remaining in a situation, which is not nurturing to the whole woman." - Maya Angelou.

You're about to start your Global Solvers journey! Because we want to get to know you a little better, this first section is all about you! Be prepared to tell us more about yourself :)

- Email:
Please indicate your current email address. Make sure to double-check spelling and avoid typos, your email is the primary point of contact we will reach you.
- Pronouns:
*We want to ensure we're using the pronouns you prefer when we refer to you using pronouns (opposed to by my name). Which are the (gender) pronouns you'd like for us to use?
-- She/Her, He/Him, They/Them, Other (please specify)*
- First (Given) Name:
- Last (Family) Name:
- Full Name in your native language:
If different from English or the Latin alphabet.
- Date of Birth:
- Phone Number:
Please provide your phone number together with the corresponding international calling code.
- This phone number belongs to a:
-- Cell Phone, Landline, Other (please specify)
- Alternative Contact:
Please provide an alternative contact in case your email or phone is out of reach so we can still connect with you for important updates.
- Nationality(s):
If you hold more than one nationality, please list them all.
- Current Residence:
Please name the country and city (or similar) where you live.
- Your Professional Background:
-- Working Professional, Student (or similar), Independent, Other (please specify)
- Place and Field of Work
*Please state the organization you're currently working with, along with your professional field.
If you're a university student (or similar), please identify the university and the field of your studies.*
- How many hours per week, on average, do you invest in your professional and/or academic endeavors?
Heads up: We are not using this information to evaluate or for assessment of any kind; we want to get a sense of what your capacity is currently.

- Languages
Please share which language(s) you speak and at what level (beginner, intermediate, advanced, native/native-like)
- Do you identify with any underserved or underrepresented groups or communities in your country of origin and/or residence?
-- Yes, No, Prefer not to answer
 - If YES, please state which groups or communities you identify with.
- Please write a short autobiography. (200 words max)
We want to get to know you - the human being behind this application. As you're opening a window into your life for us, feel free to share some more about your background, hobbies, engagement, what drives you, your achievements, as well as hopes and dreams for your future.
- Your favorite quote or inspirational phrase? (50 words max)
Please share with us, and feel free to add why it means what it means to you.

Section 3: Your Education

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela.

At the Melton Foundation, we understand learning as a continued, multi-faceted process. Delivered in a non-formal educational setting (meaning not at school, college, or university), the Global Solvers Accelerator is such a space of learning - and a transformational one, we hope.

Please indulge us with some more details about your educational journey till now.

- Please indicate the highest level of education you have completed:
-- Primary Education, Secondary Education, Professional / Diploma (high school or similar), Graduate Degree (Bachelor's or similar), Post-Graduate Degree (Master's or above), Prefer not to answer, Other
- What is your educational background?
Please indicate the primary field(s) of study or formation; you can choose up to three.
-- Agriculture, Arts, Business, Education, Engineering, Health, Humanities, IT, Law, Languages, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Other
- Are you currently enrolled in an educational program?
-- Yes (please elaborate), No
- Have you ever received government financial aid, scholarships, or other financial support to pursue your education?
-- Yes, No
- Please tell us about your educational journey (200 words max):
How have you experienced education? How has your education shaped you? What personal reflections on your education and the application of your learnings to date would you like to share?
Education is about learning, and learning happens through repetition and reflection. We are curious to hear some of the insights and reflections about your education - how you learn best, what you have learned, what you haven't learned, what you may want to explore further, how you are applying what you have learned, etc. is what we're after, and there is no right or wrong answer :)

Section 4: Your Social Impact Project

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead.

At the Global Solvers Accelerator, we aim to build (a) capacity at the personal level, (b) transformative potential at the project level, and (c) social change connections at the collective level. You would work with peers worldwide to share, discuss, and refine the social impact projects you are spearheading. Through intentional peer learning, subject matter advisory, and thought-provoking thematic contributions, we will develop competencies, capacity, and network(s) to unleash the fullest transformative potential of inspiring social impact work - yours and that of your peers.

In the following section, we invite you to tell us more about the project you are looking to accelerate as part of the program and how you see yourself contributing to an enriching learning journey for all.

- Project Name:
- Project Summary:
In no more than two sentences, describe the overarching purpose and goal(s) of the project.
- Web Reference:
Please provide web references to the project (e.g., a website, a page on social media, a youtube video about an event with their project, a document highlighting the project goals/aims, etc..)
- NEED ... What need is your project addressing? (200 words max)
Please outline the problem, how it affects your community, how it's perceived by the community, and other aspects that you consider important to help us understand the need for your project and the context in which it unfolds.
- KEY-AUDIENCES Who are the people and/or groups of people your project is targeting? (200 words max)
Please identify the most relevant stakeholders who influence or are influenced by your work. Who are they, how do they relate to the NEED outlined above, and how are they relevant to your project?
- APPROACH ... How does your project address the need? (200 words max)
Please describe how your project works, what it does, how it engages your key-audiences, etc. You may elaborate on technical or organizational details and possibly also outline why you chose or prefer this approach.
- BENEFITS ... What are the benefits of your project? (200 words max)
Please describe how your project contributes to sustainable development of the community. What are the concrete advantages of your approach, and why would or should your key-audiences get engaged? You may elaborate on how you define success for the project and how you track and measure it.
- COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE/COLLABORATION POTENTIAL ... What are the unique features of your project? (200 words max)

What other initiatives with a similar target, goal, and/or approaches exist? How is your project similar, how is it different? How do your key-audiences perceive those other initiatives? How do you leverage that “competitive advantage” in pursuit of the greater good?

- INFLUENCE ... What is your role in the project? (200 words max)
Please elaborate on the roles and the responsibilities you have in the project, and how they relate to your (personal) strengths and weaknesses. Please also discuss your capacity or leverage to affect change in the project as a result of the program.
- SDG Relevance of your work:
*Which of the Sustainable Development Goals is your project connected to? Please **choose up to three SDGs** that your project caters to the most.*
-- List of 17 SDGs

>> Please elaborate on your choice(s) for the previous question. (100 words max)
How does your project contribute to furthering the SDGs you indicated? How are they represented in the project? ... Those are some impulse questions we'd like to hear your thoughts about.

- Please indicate the stage that the project is currently in:
To fully benefit from the Global Solver Accelerator program, projects must be already in existence, regardless of the stage they are in.
-- Planning; analysis, feasibility/market research; pilot/project design; development, roll-out; testing, input, feedback; implementation; maintenance; scale

>> Please elaborate on your choice(s) for the previous question. (100 words max)

- Is the project carried out as a team effort?
-- Yes, No
- Your Aspirations ... from the program (200 words max)
Please outline how you see the Global Solvers Accelerator impact your project and the work you do there. What does success look like for your participation in the program?
- Your Contribution ... to the program (200 words max)
How do you see yourself contributing to the program? What experiences, capacity, resources, etc., can you bring to the program - from your work in the project described above and your professional journey so far. How can you help create an enriching peer-learning experience for all?

Section 5: Commitment and Engagement

"A goal without a plan is just a wish." - Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

The Global Solvers Accelerator is thriving if everyone contributes - you, your global peers, our facilitators, and so on. In the following, we want to ensure you (a) are aware of and (b) can commit to the core program expectations.

- Commitment to active program participation

*The Global Solvers Accelerator is an engaging, collaborative, peer-learning program unfolding **online** between March - December 2024. Participants are expected to contribute regularly, connect in bi-weekly meetings, and fulfill asynchronous assignments responsibly. The anticipated time commitment is 4 hours per week on average.*

*Furthermore, participants are expected to participate in a week-long **in-person** Global Solvers Co-Lab in July 2024 (fully funded, specifics to be confirmed).*

Please consider these aspects carefully before indicating your ability.

--Yes, No

- Commitment to connect program contents with your social impact projects

The Global Solvers Accelerator is project-based and builds on participants'

(a) willingness to contribute with (own) experience, know-how, energy, resources, networks, resources, etc., and share them with others.

(b) eagerness to take contents from the program into their social impact project and vice versa.

(c) ownership (or mandate) to introduce changes at the project level (as a result of the program).

Please consider these aspects carefully before indicating your ability.

--Yes, No

- Commitment to prepare your Co-Lab participation responsibly

The program includes a fully sponsored in-person retreat - the Global Solvers Co-Lab, and program participants are expected to ensure full and active participation in the week-long event taking place in July 2024 (specifics to be confirmed).

Leading up to the event, participants will be expected to take responsibility for the following:

(a) handle visa application and processing responsibly, if required (the Melton Foundation will provide a personalized invitation letter along with necessary booking information in support of your application)

(b) timely collaboration on logistical matters (unless otherwise requested, the Melton Foundation will handle bookings and travel arrangements relating to the event)

(a) preparation of agreed-upon tasks and session contributions relating to the event.

Please consider these aspects carefully before indicating your commitment.

--Yes, No

- Commitment to pay the program fees
*At the Global Solvers Accelerator, everyone contributes - also financially, with a **program fee of 800 USD**. Selected participants must settle the program fee **within a month of being accepted** into the program.*

Scholarships of up to 80% are available to participants with proven needs, and you will be able to indicate whether you require a scholarship in the next question.

If you require a scholarship, you **must submit the following** documents with this application. Our selection committee will then study your case and determine whether the scholarship can be offered:

- a **personal statement** outlining the need for support
- an **endorsement letter** from a trustworthy reference (e.g., a supervisor or co-leader of the project you're applying with)

The program fee has two primary purposes: (a) it helps subsidize some of the program activities, including the Global Solvers Co-Lab, and (b) it allows the set-up of a collective fund that will be available to deserving projects towards the end of the program.

Here, we need your commitment that you will pay the fee regardless of your request for a scholarship.

Please consider these aspects carefully before indicating your commitment.

--Yes, No

- If selected for the program, I will require a scholarship to co-finance my program fee.
--Yes, No

- If YES, please indicate the type of scholarship you will require.
-- 20% - 50% - 80% of the program fee
- If YES, please upload your personal statement outlining the need for support below.
*This is the first **required** document that the selection committee will consider when analyzing your scholarship request.*
- If YES, please upload your endorsement letter from a trustworthy reference, e.g. your supervisor or co-leader of the project you are applying with or from a supporter or collaborator of the project.
The referee's identity must be proven, and that person's relationship with the applicant must be stated explicitly.
*This is the second **required** document the selection committee will consider when analyzing your scholarship request.*

Section 6: Final Considerations and Next Steps

- Exposure to the Melton Foundation and/or collaborative programs
Please choose the option that best describes your current exposure to the Melton Foundation. Please note: previous exposure is not a requirement for this program.
-- I have no previous exposure to the organization, I follow the Melton Foundation's social media, I form part of a change community/network that the Melton Foundation belongs to (please specify), I am connected through a Melton Foundation Hub region (please specify), I have participated in a program that was spearheaded or supported by the Melton Foundation (please specify), I am a Melton Fellow, Other
- How did you hear about the Global Solvers Accelerator?
Choose as many answer options as apply.
-- Referral, Melton Foundation Website, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Online Search, Advertisement, Mailing list or Newsletter, Opportunity Forums, Other
- I would like to receive news and updates from the Melton Foundation.
With your permission, we shall add you as a recipient of our bi-monthly newsletter to keep you in the loop about the latest on global citizenship practices and upcoming opportunities.
--Yes, No
- ***I hereby declare that the information provided in this application is correct and truthful.***

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world." - Harriet Tubman

Congratulations, you're one click away from submitting your application form.

By clicking the "SUBMIT" button below, you will send your application form our way.

What's left to say at this point are two things: thank you for your application, and much success!!

[\(Submit\)](#)